

fear from me; and enough, too, in their opinion, and this is the cause of their printing lying pamphlets against me. (To Benjamin Rush, 1800. F. VII., 460.)

CHRISTIANITY.—To the corruptions of Christianity I am indeed opposed; but not to the genuine precepts of Jesus himself. I am a Christian in the only sense he wished any one to be; sincerely attached to His doctrines in preference to all others; ascribing to Himself every human excellence; and believing he never claimed any other. (To Benjamin Rush, 1803. F. VIII., 223.)

CHRISTIANITY.—But a short time elapsed after the death of the Great Reformer of the Jewish religion before His principles were departed from by those who professed to be his special servants, and perverted into an engine for enslaving mankind, and aggrandizing the oppressors in Church and State; that the purest system of morals ever before preached to man has been adulterated and sophisticated by artificial constructions into a mere contrivance to filch wealth and power to themselves; that rational men not being able to swallow their impious heresies, in order to force them down their throats, they raise the hue and cry of infidelity, which themselves are the greatest obstacles to the advancement of the real doctrines of Jesus, and do, in fact, constitute the real Anti-Christ. (To Samuel Kercheval, 1810. C. V., 492.)

CHRISTIANITY.—I have made a wee-little book from the same materials, which I call the Philosophy of Jesus; it is a paradigm of his doctrines, made by cutting the text out of the book, and arranging them on the pages of a blank book, in a certain order of time or subject. A more beautiful or precious morsel of ethics I have never seen; it is a document in proof that I am a real Christian, that is to say, a disciple of the doctrines of Jesus, very different from the Platonists, who call me infidel and themselves Christians and preachers of the gospel, while they draw all their characteristic dogmas from what its author never said nor saw. They have compounded from the heathen mysteries a system beyond the comprehension of man, of which the Great Reformer of the vicious ethics and Deism of the Jews,